

13/C (HE)

## In the United States Patent Office

In re Application:

Serial No:

09/676,453

Filed:

10/02/2000

Inventor:

Bassi et al.

Examiner:

CINTINS, IVARS C

Art Unit:

1724

Docket no.

UWO3US

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OK to Enter

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,  
Washington, D.C. U.S.A. 20231.

Dear Sir:

## AMENDMENT

In response to the Final Action of January 29, 2003 please amend this application as follows

## In the Disclosure

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5 line 23 with the following

-In the LSCFB ion exchange system of the present invention, the solids circulation rate is controlled by a butterfly valve schematically indicated at 70 located on the bottom solids return pipe 42. The mechanical valve is preferred over a hydraulic valve due to the low density of most ion exchange particles, which makes the operation of the hydraulic valve more difficult. An additional advantage of using the mechanical valve in this situation is that it enhances the pressure drop across the solids return pipe 42 and therefore makes the system more stable. The auxiliary liquid stream 62 may be used to provide additional control of the solids circulation rate.-

Please delete the paragraph inserted after the paragraph ending on page 7 line 24 in the amendment filed July 18, 2002 without prejudice

Please delete the paragraph inserted after the paragraph ending on page 8 line 30 in the amendment filed July 18, 2002 without prejudice

## In the claims

Claim 1 has been amended to read as follows

1. (Amended twice) A liquid-solid circulating fluidized bed system comprising a first liquid fluidized bed, means to feed solids into said first fluidized bed adjacent to a first end of said first fluidized bed and means to feed a first fluid into said first fluidized bed

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March 17, 2003.

To: Ivars C, Cintins

Group 1724 US Patent Office

**After Final Response**

Pages to Follow: 8

**RE:** Application no 09/676,453 filed 10/02/2000

Attached is the response to the Final Action of January 29 2002.

**Certificate of Transmission**

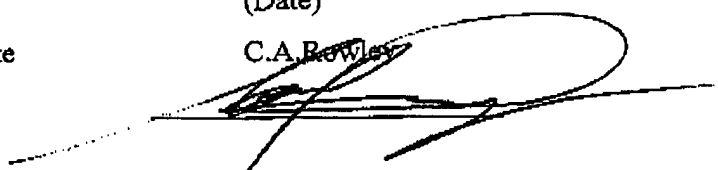
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